

## WHO'S WHO HERE

The open and kindly faced gentleman who adorns this page today was born in the town of Industry, Illinois, on the 25th day of February, 1862. Colonel Downen got away from industry at a very early age and he has been getting further and further away from it ever since. His father died when he was but four years old, and at the age of thirteen he left home and took work upon a farm, going to school between crops.



COL. JAS. E. DOWNEN

For three years the young man attended Hedding College at Abingdon, Illinois, a rare old institution that teaches the essential things of life, and the next three years of his life were spent in teaching school. In 1888 he went to Michigan and was employed in a general store for five years, and the succeeding ten years he was employed at bank work.

In 1901 Colonel Downen was married, and in 1902 he removed to the island of Cuba, where he purchased 1800 acres of fine cane growing land and took up his residence upon it. Now, be it known, that such an adventure was a pretty lonely one for such a gay and giddy thing as the Colonel must have been in those dancing days of his youth. His neighbors of the genus homo were about 17 miles apart, but he had an awful jam of company, such as bull-bats, whippoorwills, bullfrogs, mosquitoes, lizards and insurrectos. It is not generally known but some of his acquaintances are aware of the fact that Colonel Downen developed his wonderful musical talent, and improved his vocal organs in a high degree by tuning up and taking night lessons from the dappy demons of the forest that surrounded his island home.

One evening when the katydids and the night birds were warbling on a double time shift, and the Colonel was busily engaged in shoveling the loneliness off his front porch in big chunks, he concluded that it was not good to be lonesome. Besides that, it was irksome to shovel things, so he just sat down in an easy rocker and began to scratch the hair off his head in sober and high class thought. A glance at his sky-piece will prove a part of his statement. In good truth Colonel Downen is a

remarkably clever man intellectually and somewhere in his good head he found an idea, and the very next day he put it to work. He conceived the idea that he would not be so lonesome if he were to sub-divide his plantation and people each checker-board square with a lively family. Probably the fact that the other families would ever be lonely didn't occur to him. You know it is one branch of industry to attempt to think of too many things at one and the same time, and as has been said before, the colonel was day by day getting plainly and farther from industry. Therefore, in a very short space of time the colonel of the isle had one hundred families of farmers and fruit growers safely planted on his ranch, all of them doing as well as could be expected. As strange as it may seem the colonel's loneliness increased with the population of his acreage, notwithstanding the fact that the head of every family had left with the Colonel a bunch of good United States money as a guarantee of good faith. After a while the loneliness of the island closed down upon the colonel to such an extent that he could not stand it any longer, so he closed out the remainder of his Cuban holdings and came direct to Oklahoma, where loneliness has no standing at all, where no red-blooded human has ever been or can be lonely. In 1910 Colonel Downen and family moved to Oklahoma City, where educational facilities were better for his children. In that remarkable city he entered the real estate business and continued in the game until 1912 when he came to Durant and took over the management of the First State Bank. He continued with the bank until last year when his oil investments took on such proportions that he did not feel physically able to foot with such light burdens as a bank, so he sold his holdings and is now devoting all his time and attention to the oil and real estate business. Colonel Downen's interests in the great Healdton field will make him a very rich man the day that the price of crude oil goes up, and every man who knows him will be glad to know that fortune knocked at his door and found him holding the knob on the inside.

No citizen who has come to town in its entire history has been more welcome than Colonel James E. Downen, and that is saying about all that can be said of any man. Although he is a careful and laborious business man in every sense of the word, he is at leisure for his friends or the public weal at any and all times; he is as broad minded as a National highway, and as busy as a stock exchange, as modest as a bride, as well informed as an encyclopedia, as liberal as a Hindu prince, and as friendly as a politician. No man has made more loyal and true business and social friends, and no man has been or could be more loyal to his friends or to the community than he. And it does anyone good to be able to truthfully say that no city anywhere ever had a better asset than Colonel James E. Downen and his estimable family.

**Public Schools Attendance Report**  
Last month Durant's Public school shows an enrollment of 1,399, with a per cent attendance of 94.46, with 71 cases of tardiness. There were 53 thousand opportunities for tardiness with only 71 actual "tardies." This is about one-seventh of one per cent, or in other words the per cent of attendance was 99.67 per cent.  
South ward, enrollment 417; per cent of attendance, 95.2; tardies 13.  
Central ward, enrollment, 360; per cent of attendance 94.32; tardies 17.  
North Ward, enrollment 279, per cent of attendance 93.03; tardies 20.  
East ward, enrollment 316; per cent of attendance 95.3; tardies 21.  
This is a splendid showing and reflects much credit upon every one connected with our public schools.

**Mrs. Lewis Improving.**  
Mrs. C. A. Lewis, who was shot and seriously wounded supposedly by her husband, at the Katy depot, in this city, about 9 o'clock, Saturday night, March 12th, is doing well and on the road to recovery, so the physicians say.  
Lewis is still in the county jail being held awaiting the result of his wife's wounds, when an examining trial will be held and formal complaint file against him.  
The family of Will Yates, the new county assessor, moved in from Matoy this week, and are occupying the house of Mrs. Green at Third and Elm Streets.  
D. Morgan left this week for points in Arkansas to buy cattle.

### W. B. McPherson Dead.

Another pioneer citizen of Bryan county has answered the final summons, and has been called to the great beyond. W. B. McPherson, a well known citizen of Achille, aged 63 years, passed away Wednesday morning at the family home at that place at 9:45. The deceased was stricken with apoplexy about ten days ago, and since that time his death has been expected almost hourly.

The deceased has resided in Achille for the past twelve years and was one of Bryan county's best known citizens.

Besides his wife and two sons and two daughters, he is survived by a mother, three brothers and two sisters. His children are J. M. (Milt) McPherson and W. P. McPherson, and W. C. McPherson of Achille, and daughters, Mrs. H. W. Klostermann and Mrs. Rose Chesshire of Achille.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday afternoon at the home in Achille, and interment made in the Achille cemetery.

### Registration Books Open.

Secretary Rorer of the county election board has announced that the registration books for the city of Durant will be opened for three days Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, of this week, to permit those who have not done so to register. Books for Wards one and three are at J. D. Haynes' Store, for Ward Two at J. H. Downing's office and for ward Four at the Red Top Store.

### Another Whisky Peddler.

With a large quantity of Dripping Springs in his possession, E. E. McDow, claiming Bowie, Texas, as his home, was arrested Thursday morning at the Atwood Hotel. The 28 pints of whisky were packed in a suit case, and no one about the hotel was aware that there was that much booze on earth. McDow was in bed when arrested. It is claimed that he had sold a great amount of whisky before retiring that night.

McDow was placed in the county jail by Deputy Sheriff Wright who made the arrest.

### Meeting of the State Press Association.

The official program of the annual meeting of the State press association has just been issued by E. S. Bronson of El Reno, secretary of the Association. The meeting is to be held at Guthrie on May 7 and 8. A is scheduled to be made on May 9 to the A & M College at Stillwater. The people of Guthrie are planning to entertain five hundred newspaper people on this occasion.



Leave it to  
**Sanford Quest**  
Expert Criminologist

Fourth Installment  
of  
**"THE BLACK BOX"**

**Bungalow**  
Saturday Afternoon and Night

Who Has Lived Here the Longest.  
We would like to know who has lived in Bryan county longest. Write us a letter if you are an old resident, and tell some fact about the early days. We will publish letters from the oldest residents. We wish to secure as many interesting facts as possible. The publication of one incident will remind other old timers of other incidents, so let the letters come.  
To the person showing the longest continuous residence of less than continuous residence in the county, absence of less than one year, or service in the army or navy not counted absence against the pioneer, we will send the **Weekly News** free the remainder of his life. To the second oldest pioneer we will send the Durant Weekly News free of charge for five years, and to the third we will send it free for two years.

### The Freak Legislator.

Every year sees the introduction of freak bill into the legislatures of one or more states, but the spring of 1915 seems to have capped the climax. The freak legislators have run mad. Hardly a state has escaped. It is the fashion of the press to poke fun at Kansas which may be depended upon to come to the front with something in the way of freak legislation. And, although the Sunflower state has lived up to her glowing reputation in the present session, her companions in the sorority of states have not fallen far behind. Most of the new laws have been introduced for the purpose of prohibiting something or other. Here are a few we have culled from one day's exchanges.

To prohibit the catching of frogs. —Minnesota.

To prohibit the use of face powder, rouge, hair dye, or bleach, and piercing the ears and the wearing of earrings. —Kansas.

To compel chickens to go to roost before 7 p. m. To provide that bulls driven along the road at night shall wear lights. —Colorado.

To provide that all weeds and all plants which cause hay fever shall be removed from the roadside.

Bachelors to pay an annual tax of \$5. Prohibiting doctors and dentists from wearing beard. —Massachusetts.

Compelling the National Guard to do ninety days road work each year on the roads and bridges of the state. Requiring the dealers in stock foods to pay an annual license of \$25 per year. Prohibiting free lunches. —Nebraska.

Compelling churchgoers to leave their firearms outside. —Texas.

Prohibiting treating. Prohibiting the giving of tips to barbers, waiters, porters, hat snatchers, etc. Taxing bachelors of thirty years of age \$50 per annum. Licensing cats \$1 per head per annum. —Illinois.

To furnish lumber jacks with individual bath tubs. —Minnesota.

Establishing a uniform thickness of sleigh runners. —North Dakota.

Prohibiting a man from becoming a "bell dodger," i. e., allowing persons to throw base balls at one's head for hire. —New York.

Limiting each resident of the state to one gallon of corn "licker" each month. —South Carolina.

Prohibiting the smoking of cigarettes by school, normal, and university instructors. —Wisconsin.

Prohibiting the publication of liquor advertisements in the newspapers of the state and calling for the destruction of all such advertisement in papers printed outside of the state before such papers are sold. —Alabama.

### Mrs. Kelley Elected Grand Chaplain

At the annual convention of the Woodmen of the World which convened at McAlester last week Mrs. S. J. Kelley of this city was elected as the Grand Chaplain of the state of Oklahoma. Mrs. Kelley has been identified with the Woodmen and the Woodmen Circle work for many years.

### CALOMEL SALIVATES AND MAKES YOU SICK

Acts Like Dynamite on a Sluggish Liver and You Lose a Day's Work.

There is no reason why a person should take sickening, salivating, calomel when fifty cents buys a large bottle of Dodson's Liver Tonic—a perfect substitute for calomel.

It is a pleasant, vegetable liquid which will start your liver just as surely as calomel, but it does not make you sick and cannot salivate.

Children and grown folks can take Dodson's Liver Tonic because it is perfectly harmless.

Calomel is a dangerous drug. It is mercury and attacks your bones. Take a dose of nasty calomel today and you will feel weak, sick, and nauseated tomorrow. Don't lose a day's work. Take a teaspoonful of Dodson's Liver Tonic instead and you will wake up feeling great. No more bitterness, constipation or sluggishness, headache, coated tongue, or sour stomach. Your druggist says that if you do not find that Dodson's Liver Tonic acts better than horrible calomel your money is waiting for you.



**Dr. Price's**  
CREAM  
BAKING POWDER

Made from cream of tartar, derived from grapes, the most delicious and wholesome of all fruit acids.

Its superiority is unquestioned.  
Its fame world-wide.  
Its use a protection and a guarantee against alum food.

If you wish to avoid a danger to your food  
**READ THE LABEL**

and decline to buy or use any baking powder that is not plainly designated as a cream of tartar powder.

### Dog Kills Sheep—Man Kills Dog

Among his other stock interests, A. C. Risner, who lives south of this city, has several hundred head of sheep, and for some time the dogs of the neighborhood have been killing them, and it has been nothing uncommon for Mr. Risner to find half a dozen dead sheep scattered around the place, on going out of a morning. He located the dogs that were doing the killing and notified the owners to either keep them up or make some disposition of them as they were killing his sheep. It appears that the owners did nothing with the dogs and the killing kept up until Mr. Risner had lost twenty-seven sheep. Of course the dogs had gone away but Mr. Risner knew them and knew where they were located so he took his Winchester and rode over to the place where the dogs were, at the homes of the owners, and deliberately shot them. There are four sheep killing dogs less, but Mr. Risner is not losing and more sheep. Mayor Harris fined the dog killer \$10 and remitted the fine with the remark that there were a number of other dogs that should meet such fate. —Daily Democrat.

### M. O. & G. to Erect Station in Durant

The receivers of the Missouri, Oklahoma and Gulf railroad company has announced that the company plans many improvements in the line in Oklahoma, among which is a new depot for Durant to be built of brick and to cost upward of 20 thousand dollars. The company put a big crew of men to work this week ballasting their tracks and it is intended to make the roadbed standard and as good as the best of them. Five hundred laborers are employed. Ample money has been provided for carrying the project to completion, so the receiver announces.

Sam Sweeney, former county clerk, now working for the state examiner and inspector, was home on a visit this week.

### Fight in County Jail.

A one-sided fight was pulled off in the county jail just before noon Monday, in which G. A. Lewis, who is awaiting trial for attempt to murder his wife, was the victim and needed the services of a doctor to dress his wounds. The other end of the fight was upheld by Lee Randall who is serving a time for peddling white-key. Almost immediately after the scrap Randall's fine was paid and he was released. Lewis' story of the affair is that he was standing near his bunk with his hands on it when Randall hit him in the ear with a syrup pail that is used as a cuspidor, knocking him down and then beating him up. Lewis has a badly cut and bruised ear, a badly cut hand, a black eye and other minor bruises. He says that several of the prisoners have been abusing him for some time, and that the assault by Randall was the first notice he had that hostilities were in the air.

### ODD BITS OF NEWS.

New York.—Charles Stelala, director of relief and emergency measures of Mayor Mitchell's committee on Unemployment, has left his position to begin the organization of a bureau for the relief of hundreds of thousands of artisans and working men who will soon be thrown out of employment in the states which recently passed the prohibition laws. The movement has been endorsed by the leading labor leaders and philanthropists.

## Chiropractor

**Dr. C. W. Maier**

ROOMS 17-19  
GRIDER BUILDING  
DURANT, OKLAHOMA

## The Name of this Bank

STANDS FOR SECURITY, ACCOMMODATION, AND FOR PROMPTNESS AND ACCURACY IN ATTENDING TO THE NEEDS OF ITS PATRONS.

Even with these features, however, its service would not be complete were they not joined with that real spirit of helpfulness which makes the officers of this bank your right hand men at times when you desire counsel or advice on matters vital to your affairs.

We invite small accounts as well as large ones. Interest at the rate of four per cent per annum paid on time deposits. Make our bank your bank.

## DURANT NATIONAL BANK

CAPITAL, \$100,000.00  
SURPLUS, \$100,000.00  
Jas. R. McKinney, Pres.  
W. E. Clark, Cashier.  
B. A. McKinney, Vice Pres.  
J. M. Hall, Asst. Cashier.



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**THE DURANT WEEKLY NEWS**  
JOB DEPARTMENT  
Durant, Oklahoma.